Menace of the LASFS #4590
July 31, 2025
Bored Now

President: Cathy Johnson
Scribe: Matthew Mitchell

President Cathy Johnson managed to have her cup of tea in hand in time to call the meeting to order at precisely 8:00 p.m.

Hatchings, Matchings and Dispatchings [Nick smith and Susan Fox]
Hatchings:
Nick gave us the birthdays of the following, the first of whom he has met in person:

- Ted Cassidy, known as Lurch on the Addams Family, and three roles on Star Trek (Ruk the Android and the voices of the Gorn captain and Balok (who turned out to be a mannequin), but also a talented voice actor and radio personality.
- Steve Miller, author who did his best work on the series he and his wife Sharon Lee created, the Liaden series.
- John Joseph Adams, assistant editor of the Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction, co-creator of Lightspeed Magazine

Susan contributed these additional Hatchings:

Tami Stronach, The Childlike Empress in "The Neverending Story."

Michael Biehn, known for his roles in James Cameron's science fiction films, including The Terminator, Aliens, and The Abyss; later in Walking Dead and The Mandalorian.

France Nuyen, Star Trek guest star in the title role of Elaan of Troyius, as well as roles in Battle For The Planet of the Apes, The Joy Luck Club and so much more.

Nick gave us the following Media anniversaries:

- 1930, The Shadow debuted, (albeit as a radio narrator rather than protagonist.
- 1942, The Invisible Agent movie. Several actors would claim he represents them.

Susan added that in 2000, Toby McGuire was announced to be starring as Spider-Man
Passings:
Nick reported the passing of Tom Lehrer, known for songs The Elements, Poisoning Pigeons in the Park, The Masochism Tango. He threw his entire catalog into public domain for everyone's enjoyment.
Susan brought up Ozzy Osbourne, whose songs Iron Man, Bark at the Moon and Planet Caravan are fandom-adjacent.

Reading of the minutes for #4589
Cathy corrected the minutes in regard to the record number of presidential terms was *consecutive,* not *total.* Matthew Tepper currently has the record of consecutive terms, although it may have been surpassed because we apparently haven't been paying attention. Lee Grixit remarked that it's fortunate LASFS does not commemorate this with marble statues. Dean Johnson added that we've all lost our marbles, a pun even his wife insisted he pay. Appropriately enough Eylat bid $5 to name the minutes: "LASFS has lost its marbles". The members voted to approve at 8:18 p/m.

Patron Saints:
Sean Cleary: Chris Marble remembered he was a fan of all genres, but primarily a furry; he is apparently living in Portland and working as a security guard. Nick is still in touch with him, and though he does not live near any major fannish groups, he does participate in filksinging on Zoom.

Eylat consulted the Necronomicon, or rather, the Patron Saint archive, and found him on the membership list of Loscon 36, and that he also participated in L.A. Filkers Anonymous for many years. Sean was given 3 Cheers, that were not nearly as well choreographed as some filksongs.
David Okumora: Cathy remembered that David made models for Loscon & origami objects. Susan met him on the extinct online service eWorld, and recognizing a fan at first sight, pointed him in the direction of fandom and LASFS. She had lost track of him. Matt was able to supply David's supposedly current email address from the De Prof mailing list. Nick knew David had moved down to Orange County for family reasons. He remembered David writing a number of filksongs, including some based on H.P. Lovecraft, and won several competitions at Loscon over the years. He also mentioned David's facility for origami and miniature models. Eylat said David contributed toilet seat covers and toilet paper to the club. In a post-COVID world, this does not seem trivial. He attended several Loscons and Condors, and was a frequent contributor during Moments of Science during LASFS meetings. Matthew Remembered that when the club met at the Directors' Guild, David brought in a clapboard, the kind used in making movies and TV, and it was used to start meetings. MaryAnn wrote in the chat that David helped her park at the clubhouse. Marc Silver added that David was a great filker and that he got Marc interested in paper crafting. Michelle Pincus managed to place a call to David, and discovered he is currently in the hospital with a heart condition. She passed the best wishes of the LASFS membership to him for a speedy recovery. David was given 3 cheers and a teeny tiny airplane.

Committee Reports

Honor Guard: As Sci.Radio's tenure in the spot of honor was drawing to a close, CLJII explained the significance of the spot of honor, and the auction thereof. $20 was bid by Eylat to have LosCon 51 occupy the spot for the month of August.

Registrar : Matthew announced Orty Ortwein, author of The First Geeks, who has been with us before and did a reading a while back. Another old member, David Brian Doering, who saw the Burbank clubhouse from the liquor store across the street, stopped in this evening.

Treasurer: Elayne said that some of the attendees had not paid their dues, and reminded us that next week is a new month. Plus, donations are welcome anytime.

Board of Directors: Michelle reminded us: No August BoD, next one September 14th.

Loscon 51: Eylat put all the pertinent information in the Chat, as well as the Programming from now until December. Of note is a recent addition: September 4th, Larry Niven reads "Potlatch"

For our program, Craig Miller read excerpts from his books, Star Wars Memories and More Movie Memories. Afterward, Craig answered questions and participated in lively discussions about merchandising and autographs from Sith Lords. At one point Craig's cat tried to take over his screen, prompting several members to ask if the cat had appeared 3 three times or if he needed to pay dues. Matt said that we shouldn't *kibble* about it, resulting in a pun fine.

This week, the Fannish wellness committee presented its finding in the chat. Chris wrote that George McUrso (Mulligan), Selina Phanara and Don Fitch are not dead. Eylat added Joyce Sperling and Heide Nichols to the Land of the Living. Matt has traded emails recently with Joanne Dow, who is still alive "despite some determined efforts by fate to alter that state." Also, Steve Smyth has recovered some of his eyesight and has posted on Facebook.

Neither Old Business nor New Business managed to slither under the door since last week.

Cathy compressed the announcements and reviews and whatnot into a big ball of wibbley-wobbley stuff. Lee Grixit reported on the recent development of the next best thing to tricorders: a photoencephalograph that can see the faint light from brain activity through the skull. Matt proclaims that *Fantastic Four: First Steps* finally gets the FF properly on film. Cathy and Dean have seen it and concur. Nick reviewed a documentary called The Hobby: Tales from the Tabletop, about the fandom of board gaming. He saw it at the Lemmle theater, but it's available on Amazon and Apple and other streaming services. CL noticed more signs of encroaching Halloween, such as pumpkin Snickers bars at the 7-Eleven, and Halloween programming on the Food Network starting late August. Cathy slid a reminder of the aftermeeting before Eylat moved, and Willard Stone seconded, the motion to adjourn at 9:18 p.m.